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2853  
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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kenji TSUKADA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/031,408

Confirmation No.: 2132

Filed: January 18, 2002

Docket No: Q68137

Group Art Unit: 2853

Examiner: Leonard S. Liang

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For: INK CONSUMPTION DETECTING METHOD, AND INK JET RECORDING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

10/01/2003 NROCHA1 00000018 10031408

Sir:

01-FC:1886

180.00 OP

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is attached.

10/01/2003 NROCHA1 00000018 10031408

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT


U.S. Appln. No.: 10/031,408

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant is submitting an English Abstract for each of the listed foreign language documents.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Allison M. Bowles  
Registration No. 48,294

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 29, 2003

Complete if Known

Substitute for Form 1449 A &amp; B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

3

Application Number	10/031,408
Confirmation Number	2132
Filing Date	January 18, 2002
First Named Inventor	Kenji TSUKADA
Art Unit	2853
Examiner Name	Leonard S. Liang
Attorney Docket Number	Q68137

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 4,329,875		05/18/1982	Nolting et al.
		US 4,703,652		11/03/1987	Itoh et al.
		US 6,089,686		07/18/2000	Thornton et al.
		US 3,110,890		11/12/1963	V.C. Westcott et al.
		US 4,008,612		02/22/1977	Nagaoka et al.
		US 3,889,247		06/10/1975	Voll
		US 4,984,457		01/15/1991	Morris
		US 5,697,248		12/16/1997	Brown
		US 5,473,353		12/05/1995	Soucemarianadin et al.
		US 5,586,085		12/17/1996	Lichte
		US 5,737,963		04/14/1998	Eckert et al.
		US 6,470,744		10/29/2002	Usui et al.
		US 4,984,449		01/15/1991	Caldwell et al.

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		EP	0 803 364	A3	06/10/1998		
		FR	2 572 519	A1	05/02/1999		Abstract
		EP	0 853 236 A1		07/15/1998	SMITHS INDUSTRIES PLC	
		EP	0 684 136	A2 & A3	11/29/1995		
		JP	04135862		05/11/1992	Seikosha Co. Ltd.	Abstract
		WO	99/42293		08/26/1999	Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Co.	
		EP	0 660 092		06/28/1995	Canon Inc.	
		EP	0 553 535		08/4/1993	Seiko Epson Corporation	

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, JP 11 020162 (Fuji Xerox Co. Ltd.) Published on January 26, 1999	Abstract
		PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, vol. 1995, no. 08, 29 September 1995 & JP 07 137276 A (Canon Inc.) 30 May 1995 abstract	Abstract
		PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1998, no. 05, 30 April 1998 & JP 10 026549 A, 27 January 1998 abstract	Abstract
		PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2000, no. 14, 5 March 2001 & JP 2000 318183 A (Sony Corp.), 21 November 2000 abstract	Abstract
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, 02034353, vol. 014, no. 186	Abstract

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<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

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Substitution for Form 1449 A & B/PTO <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number Confirmation Number Filing Date First Named Inventor Art Unit Examiner Name Attorney Docket Number	10/031,408 2132 January 18, 2002 Kenji TSUKADA 2853 Leonard S. Liang Q68137
Sheet	2	of	3		

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 5,975,102		11/02/1999	SCHALK
		US 5,689,288		11/18/1997	WIMMER et al.
		US 6,044,694		06/04/2000	ANDERSON et al.
		US 5,616,929		04/01/1997	Hara
		US 4,479,982		10/30/1984	Nilsson et al.
		US 5,410,518		04/25/1995	Birkett
		US 4,594,891		06/17/1986	Benz et al.
		US 6,302,527		10/16/2001	Walker
		US 3,220,258		11/30/1965	Rod
		US 4,636,814		01/13/1987	Terasawa
		US 6,050,669		04/18/2000	Yano et al.

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		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		WO	98/31548		07/23/1998	Hewlett-Packard Company	
		JP	63247047		10/13/1988	Canon Inc.	Abstract
		GB	2 304 898		03/26/1997	The Whitaker Corporation	
		WO	98/09139		03/05/1998	The General Electric Company	
		EP	0 873 873		10/28/1998	Hewlett-Packard Company	
		JP	06297726		10/25/1994	Canon Inc.	Abstract
		JP	62-95225		05/01/1987	Canon Inc.	Abstract
		EP	0 676 624		10/11/1995	Simmonds Precision Products Inc.	
		EP	1 088 668		04/04/2001	Hewlett-Packard Company	

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

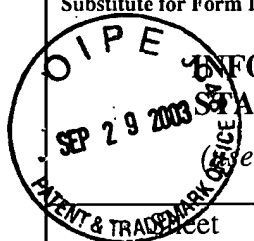
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, 07081290, vol. 1995, no. 06	
		US 2002/0105555, published 8/8/2002 to Tsukada et al.	
		US 2002/0015084, published 2/7/2002 to Tsukada et al.	
		US 2002/0012015, published 1/31/2002 to Tsukada et al.	

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Sheet 3 of 3

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		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 4,811,595		03/14/1989	Marciniak et al.
		US 4,770,038		09/13/1988	Zuckerwar et al.
		US 5,353,631		10/11/1994	Woringer et al.
		US 5,949,447		09/07/1999	Arai et al.
		US 5,774,136		06/30/1998	Barbehenn et al.
		US 5,712,667		01/27/1998	Sato
		US 6,164,744		12/26/2000	Froger et al.
		US 3,832,900		09/03/1974	Ross
		US 3,703,693		11/21/1972	Levinn
		US 4,403,227		09/06/1983	Bertschy et al.
		US 6,007,190		12/28/1999	Murray et al.
		US 6,312,106		11/06/2001	Walker
		US 6,312,115		11/06/2001	Hara et al.
		US 6,390,590		05/21/2002	Hansburg
		US 5,463,377		10/31/1995	Kronberg
		US 5,788,819		08/04/1998	Onishi et al.
		US 6,312,074		11/06/2001	Walker
		US 5,747,689		05/05/1998	Hampo et al.
		US 5,788,388		08/04/1998	Cowger et al.
		US 5,315,317		05/24/1994	Terasawa et al.
		US 5,793,705		08/11/1998	Gazis et al.
		US 4,107,994		08/22/1978	Sogo
		US 4,419,677		12/06/1983	Kasugayama et al.
		US 4,796,782		01/10/1989	Wales et al.
		US 6,012,793		01/11/2000	Haigo
		US 5,877,997		03/02/1999	Fell
		US 4,853,718		08/01/1989	El Hatem et al.
		US 5,035,140		07/30/1991	Daniels et al.
		US 5,583,544		12/10/1996	Stamer et al.
		US 5,619,238		04/08/1997	Higuma et al.
		US 5,675,367		10/07/1997	Scheffelin et al.

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